

Memphis Animal Advisory Board
Work Session
August 11, 2011

Those in attendance:

Dr. Stephen Tower, Chairman
Don Siemer
Dr. Jennifer Clay
Jeanne Chancellor
John Cox, by audio connection
Matthew Pepper, Shelter Administrator
LaSonya Hall, Deputy Director
Jill Madajczyk, City Attorney's Office

Dr. Tower Called the meeting to order.

Motion to accept the July minutes made by Jen Clay. Motion seconded by Jeanne Chancellor. Motion passed.

Jill Madajczyk explained the livestock ordinance. Government Deals will not list live animals anymore. A rewriting of the ordinance to allow livestock to go to rescue rather than be disposed of at auction is being worked on. A copy of this change will be available at the next meeting. The cost of keeping the animals until auction is probably more than if they can be released to rescue which could be immediate upon stray hold ending.

The changes to the bonding requirements being rewritten should be available at the September meeting.

Don Siemer asked that the Advisory Board members receive and review all ordinance changes that are proposed that involve the Animal Shelter in anyway.

Matt Pepper reported on Animal Shelter Issues.

Pictures of shelter employees supposedly fighting dogs appeared on the internet via the webcams. Live feed if this incident were available and show these allegations completely false. The live feed was available to local media at the shelter. The pictures were taken completely out of context which was obvious when anyone watched the live feed.

Intake at the shelter is up about 9% at the current time over last year.

Estimated intake for this year is 15,600 - 15,900.

To date the euthanasia rate for the year to date is 75.2%.

59% of intake are strays

41% of intake are owner surrenders

8% of intake are claimed by owners

Discussed a city license for dogs and cats to increase revenue. If revenue could go to shelter would increase operating capital.

The Second Chance Program and shelter employees was discussed. Officers can now write Ordinance Summons.

A motion was made by John Cox and seconded by Jeanne Chancellor:

The Animal Shelter no longer hire persons from the Second Chance Program as animal control officers.
The motion passed.

Don Siemer make a motion that all items voted on and passed be numbered and dated, and a copy of these items be given to Janet Hooks and the administration.

Motion was seconded by Jen Clay. The motion passed.

The union requirement that infractions only stay on an employee's record 6 months was discussed. The possibility of having the time extended to a long period of time during the next contract negotiations was discussed.

The use of Qualcom Gps systems for officers with tracking software was discussed. It will enable a track of how long officers are at a location.

A motion was made that the Qualcom systems be in all trucks. The motion was made by John Cox and seconded by Don Siemer.

The structure of dispatching was discussed. The possibility of clerks dispatching when closed to the public. The police dispatch is not that smooth.

The shelter is currently about 890 calls behind.

The 6 month probationary period for employment was also discussed. If the period were increased it might increase the ability to manage personnel. It might be helpful to have someone from labor relations come to a future meeting.

Building a better website for the shelter on the city site was discussed. It needs to be more user friendly.

The building of positive pr for the shelter was discussed and will be covered in the next meeting.

The next meeting will be an open meeting at the Library. Business of the board will be conducted during the first part of the meeting.

Cards will be available to the public to fill out if they wish to speak at the end of the meeting. Agenda items will be covered first, and if time allows other topics may be heard.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting was made by Jen Clay and seconded by Don Siemer.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Chancellor
Secretary